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National Agricultural Statistics Service
Kentucky Field Office



News Release

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KENTUCKY CATTLE INVENTORY DECLINES

The **Kentucky** cattle and calf inventory for January 1, 2011 was estimated at 2.19 million head according to the Kentucky Field Office of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Total inventory was down 110,000 head from last year. Beef cows and milk cows both showed a decrease from the previous year's inventory. Beef replacement heifers decreased, while milk cow replacement heifers remained unchanged from 2010. Other heifers showed a slight increase in inventory, while steers had a decrease. Calves on hand also decreased from the previous year.

Cows and heifers that have calved were estimated at 1.10 million head, down 50,000 head from the 1.15 million for 2010. Beef cow inventory was estimated at 1.02 million head and milk cows were estimated at 77,000 head. Milk cow numbers in Kentucky continue to decline.

Heifers 500 lbs. and over were estimated at 330,000 head, unchanged from last year's estimate. Beef replacement heifers totaled 145,000 head, down 5,000 from January 2010. Dairy heifers, at 50,000 head were unchanged and other heifers at 135,000 were up 5,000 from the previous year. Steers 500 lbs. and over numbered 220,000 head, a decrease of 15,000 from 2010. Bulls 500 lbs. and over numbered 70,000 head, down 5,000 head from last year. Calves less than 500 lbs. were estimated at 470,000 head, a decrease of 40,000 from the 2010 estimate. Cattle on feed were estimated at 10,000 head, unchanged from the previous year.

The 2010 calf crop was estimated at 1.00 million calves, a decrease of 30,000 from the previous year's estimate.

All cattle and calves in the **United States** as of January 1, 2011, totaled 92.6 million head, 1 percent below the 93.9 million on January 1, 2010.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 40.0 million, were down 1 percent from the 40.5 million on January 1, 2010. Beef cows were estimated at 30.9 million, down 2 percent from 2010 and milk cows were estimated at 9.10 million, were up 1 percent from 2010.

All heifers 500 lbs. and over were estimated at 19.5 million, down 1 percent from January 1, 2010. Beef replacement heifers numbered 5.20 million, down 5 percent, milk replacement heifers numbered 4.60 million, up 1 percent and other heifers numbered 9.80 million, up 1 percent. Steers 500 lbs. and over numbered 16.4 million, down 1 percent and bulls 500 lbs. and over numbered 2.20 million head, down 2 percent. Calves under 500 lbs. totaled 14.5 million, down 3 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots totaled 14.0 million, up 3 percent.

The 2010 calf crop was estimated at 35.7 million head, down 1 percent from 2009. This is the smallest calf crop since the 34.9 million born during 1950. Calves born during the first half of 2010 were estimated at 25.9 million, down 1 percent from 2009.

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